

BPL is a potential disaster to the HF radio spectrum. Amateur radio operators have already demonstrated that current systems being tested in several localities cause harmful interference across a wide swath of very important radio spectrum. The interference levels have been very high. The HF radio spectrum is still used heavily by the U.S. Military, the Coast Guard, FEMA and other governmental agencies. These are users who need reliable HF communication as a matter of life and death. In addition, there are other users such as Amateur Radio Operators, Shortwave Broadcasters and AM Radio Broadcasters who will suffer significantly due to BPL interference. Amateur Radio operators are often called in to provide emergency communications when governmental infrastructures are inadequate or incapacitated. During recent hurricanes in Bermuda, the Caribbean and The Carolinas, amateur radio was often the only viable emergency communications system. From what I have read thus far, the FCC appears to be giving the BPL industry a pass on interference issues. It is clear that the technology needs a great deal more study and improvement before it is ready for prime time. While it is admirable to pursue various technologies to achieve the goal of rural broadband internet access, it is foolish to pursue that policy blindly without looking at the consequences. The current BPL system pollutes the HF airwaves in a manner that is no different than water or air pollution. The radio spectrum is just another natural resource that must be protected and utilized wisely. BPL in its current form is what sulfur dioxide is to air pollution or mercury is to water pollution. Please do not allow BPL to pollute this wonderful HF radio spectrum resource. Thank you for your attention.

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